

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: NISHIUCHI, Takeshi et al.

Group Art Unit: 372.

Serial No.: 09/901,044

Examiner: MORGAN, E.P.

Filed: July 10, 2001

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 6430

For: DRY SURFACE TREATING APPARATUS AND DRY SURFACE TREATING METHOD USING THE SAME APPARATUS

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116 - EXPEDITED RESPONSE GROUP ART UNIT 3723

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

December 26, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **August 27, 2002**, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

RECEIVED
DEC 3 0 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 10 and 17 as follows:

Claim 10. (Twice Amended) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said protrusion is provided at an internal angle of 30° to 100°.